

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 15814 281850Z
ACTION EUR-12

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UNCLAS ROME 15814

EUR/WE FOR BROD; WHITE HOUSE FOR ROBERT HUNTER AND DENIS
CLIFT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP VT IT
SUBJ: SUGGESTED ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR HEAD OF US DELEGATION
TO THE PAPAL CORONATION

QUOTE LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
IT IS A PRIVILEGE AND AN HONOR TO BE IN ITALY AGAIN REPRESENTING
PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.
THREE WEEKS AGO ROSALYNN CARTER REPRESENTED THE PRESIDENT AT THE
FUNERAL OF POPE PAUL VI. AT THAT TIME SHE ASKED US TO CELEBRATE
HIS LIFE RATHER THAN MOURN HIS DEATH.
THE WORLD IS NOW BLESSED WITH A NEW POPE: JOHN PAUL I.
AS HIS FIRST ACT HE SELECTED A NAME CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
NOT ONE BUT TWO OF THE MOST BELOVED POPES OF THIS CENTURY:
POPE JOHN XXIII AND POPE PAUL VI.
WHEN POPE JOHN PAUL WAS STILL BISHOP LUCIANI HE USED
TO QUOTE MARK TWAIN TO HIS STUDENTS. THE STUDENTS WERE DELIGHTED
AND THE PARISHONERS WERE SCANDALIZED AT INNER QUOTE A BISHOP
CITING MARK TWAIN END INNER QUOTE. BISHOP LUCIANI RESPONDED THAT
INNER QUOTE AS THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF BOOKS THERE ARE DIFFERENT
KINDS OF BISHOPS: SOME LIKE EAGLES WHO SOAR WITH LOFTY AND
SOPHISTICATED ARGUMENTS; SOME LIKE NIGHTINGALES WHO SING THE PRAISE
OF THE LORD IN MARVELOUS WAYS; AND OTHER LIKE THE POOR WREN
WHO CHIRP OUT THEIR OWN MODEST OPINIONS ON WEIGHTY SUBJECTS END
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INNER QUOTE.
HE COMPARED HIMSELF TO THE WRENS. BUT MOST OF US ARE WRENS,
AND IT IS REASSURING TO KNOW THAT THERE IS A POPE WHO IS ONE
OF US AND KNOWS US. WE SAW THAT IN HIS SMILE LAST SATURDAY WHEN
FOR THE FIRST TIME AS POPE JOHN PAUL I HE APPEARED BEFORE THE
WORLD FROM THE BALCONY OF SAINT PETER'S BASILICA.
THAT BEAMING SMILE BORE A CLEAR MESSAGE OF HOPE AND JOY

FOR ME--AND I AM SURE FOR MANY OTHERS.
END QUOTE.HOLMES

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NNN

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TAGS: OVIP, VT, IT, US, (MONDALE, WALTER F), (JOHN PAUL I, POPE)
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